



Kentucky Department of Veterans Affairs



For Immediate Release
May 20, 2013

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Napier Named Administrator at Veterans Nursing Home in Hazard

FRANKFORT, Ky (May 20, 2013) Neil Napier is the new administrator of the Paul Patton Eastern Kentucky Veterans Center (EKVC) in Hazard. He takes the place of Judy Branham, who resigned last year.

“We are very pleased that Neil has accepted this duty assignment,” said Ken Lucas, commissioner of the Kentucky Department of Veterans Affairs, which operates EKVC. “Neil has been a key asset to EKVC since 2006, and his experience and dedication will serve him and our veterans well.”

“Neil has done a superb job directing the recreation program here for the past seven years,” said Gilda Hill, executive director of the Office of Kentucky Veterans Centers. “We are confident his leadership skills are what EKVC needs.”

Napier, 35, of Buckhorn, has a master's degree in recreation and park administration with an emphasis in therapeutic recreation from Eastern Kentucky University and is a certified therapeutic recreation specialist. He also has a license from the Kentucky Board of Licensure for Nursing Home Administrators. He worked as a recreation therapist in Lexington before becoming EKVC's Recreation Program Supervisor in 2006. As EKVC administrator, he will oversee 166 employees.

EKVC opened in 2002. It provides skilled nursing care to 120 veterans.

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